

CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA

DATE: _____

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

A resolution to approve the research project entitled "La Crosse Encephalitis: Epidemiology to Elimination"
by Ross M. Boyce, Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases,
UNC School of Medicine & Brian Byrd, Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, Western
Carolina University

WHEREAS, the EBCI Medical Institutional Review Board (MIRB) has been assigned the task of reviewing health-related research requests made to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; and

WHEREAS, La Crosse Virus is the most common cause of pediatric arboviral encephalitis in the United States (US). The disease, which is transmitted by the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes, is highly prevalent in the Appalachian region of western North Carolina (NC). There are around 17 cases in North Carolina per year and around 92% in Western NC alone. Between 2011-2020, NC reported 175 cases, accounting for nearly a quarter of all cases in the US. LACV disease disproportionately impacts children, who account for the vast majority of severe cases

WHEREAS, The new research titled "*La Crosse Encephalitis: Epidemiology to Elimination*" is a partnership between UNC Chapel Hill and Western Carolina University. There are essentially 3 parts to the study:
Part 1: Is conducted off boundary lands in Buncombe County, NC. More specifically, Mission Hospital in Asheville, NC who see patients who are admitted with symptoms that suggest they might have La Crosse Encephalitis and consent to enroll and provide clinical data.
Part 2: Residential Evaluation (survey for mosquitoes and problem areas).
Part 3: La Crosse virus antibody testing of family members (or neighbors) to determine exposure levels (only 1 out of 100-300 infections lead to disease—so there is much more exposure occurring than we "see" clinically).

WHEREAS The overall goal of this research is to build the appropriate infrastructure and collect preliminary data that will lay the foundation for future efforts to improve the effectiveness of care for patients hospitalized with LaCrosse neuroinvasive disease and reduce disease transmission in the community.

1 WHEREAS, The Medical Institutional Review Board (MIRB) has carefully reviewed this study
2 and has determined that it meets all necessary ethical and research standards to
3 ensure the safety and well-being of participants; and
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5 WHEREAS, The Secretary of the Public Health and Human Services Division (PHHS) has
6 reviewed the request and the MIRB's recommendations and has also given
7 approval; and
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9 WHEREAS, The researcher acknowledges that the EBCI has a non-exclusive license to all
10 information obtained from this research. And all information obtained will be
11 forwarded to the EBCI Secretary of PHHS for review and neither *Ross M. Boyce*
12 nor the Co-Investigator (*Brian Byrd*) will use this information in any manner not
13 authorized or in violation of Tribal law.
14

15 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee
16 Indians, in Council assembled in which a quorum is present, that Ross Boyce,
17 Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, UNC School of
18 Medicine, is hereby granted permission to carry out the above-named research
19 project as described in her MIRB-approved proposal, carrying out all follow-up and
20 reporting as required by the Medical Institutional Review Board.
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22 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are hereby
23 ~~rescinded; and that this resolution shall become effective upon ratification by the~~
24 Principal Chief.
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27 Submitted by: *Sonya Wachacha, Secretary*
28 *EBCI Public Health and Human Services Division*
29 *on behalf of the EBCI Medical Institutional Review Board*
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